

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology****Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award**

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award will meet on: Monday, November 9, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesday, November 10, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday, November 11, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Thursday, November 12, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Judges Panel is composed of nine members prominent in the field of quality management and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The Panel's agenda includes reviewing the 1998 award process and final judging of 1998 applicants, including a review of each of the 1998 site visits. The review process involves examination of records and discussions of applicant data, and will be closed to the public in accordance with Section 552b(c)(4) of Title 5, United States Code.

DATES: The meeting will convene November 9, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. on November 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building Conference Room, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, telephone number 301-975-2361.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on April 30, 1998, that the meeting of the Judges Panel will be closed pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, section 10(d) for those portions of the meeting which involve examination of records and discussion of matters mentioned above, may be closed to the public in accordance with section 552b(c)(4) of Title 5, United States Code, since those portions of the meeting are likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a

person which is privileged or confidential.

Dated: October 14, 1998.

Robert E. Hebner,

Acting Deputy Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 101398A]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Council (Council) will hold its 70th meeting of its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The SSC meeting will be held on November 11-13, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day.

ADDRESSES: The 70th SSC meeting will be held at the Council office conference room, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: 808-522-8220. *Council address:* Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808-522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SSC will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the following agenda items. The order in which agenda items will be addressed can change.

Wednesday, November 11, 1998, 8:30 a.m.

A. Precious corals fishery management plan (FMP) issues

1. Status of fishery; and
2. Findings of recent research in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

B. Crustaceans FMP issues (Northwestern Hawaiian Islands [NWHI] lobster fishery)

1. Update on the 1998 commercial fishing season;
2. Results from the 1998 research cruise;
3. Status of NMFS tagging project; and
4. Status of draft regulatory measure for bank-specific harvest guidelines.

Presentation: "Guidelines for limited entry programs"

C. Ecosystem & Habitat issues

1. Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Farallon de Mendinilla, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI);
2. Other issues/activities; and
3. Development of Coral Reef Ecosystem FMP, including goals and objectives, draft outline, proposed initial regulations, and research and assessment needs.

Thursday, November 12, 1998, 8:30 a.m.

Presentation: "Linear programming model of Hawaii's multifishery"

D. Pelagic FMP issues

1. 2nd/3rd quarter 1998 longline fishery report (for Hawaii and American Samoa);

2. Research & issues update: Secretariat of the Pacific Community-Oceanic Fisheries Program (SPC-OFP), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC);

3. NMFS review of area closure framework measure for American Samoa;

4. Outline for a comprehensive data amendment;

5. Blue marlin management options;

6. Bigeye tagging workshop outputs;

7. Protected species interactions/Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Expert Consultations, considering: 3rd quarter 1998 turtle takes and research, 1998 bird takes, bird mitigation project and population dynamics workshop, and reports of FAO Rome meeting for shark, birds and capacity;

8. Sharks, including finning update and research initiatives;

9. Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting - Honolulu - October; and

10. Upcoming meetings: Interim Scientific Committee (ISC) - Honolulu - January, and Fourth Multilateral High Level Conference (MHLC4) - Honolulu - February.

Wednesday, November 13, 1998, 8:30 a.m.

E. Bottomfish FMP issues

1. Status of onaga, ehu and hapuupuu, and request to NMFS to remove from overfished list;

2. Status of Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) and NMFS research activities;

3. Report on state management in Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI); and

4. Options for Federal management in MHI: including delegation of authority to state and other options.

F. Review of Council's Programs

G. Other Business

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance